

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL BOB MORGAN (USAF) RETIRED

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an honorary New Yorker, Colonel Bob Morgan (USAF) Ret.

Colonel Morgan was part of the heroic and courageous crew aboard the Memphis Belle during World War II. During that time the Memphis Belle flew 25 consecutive successful missions while helping the allies to defeat Nazi Germany.

In a ceremony at the American Airpower Museum at Republic Airport in New York, Colonel Morgan honored many supporters by describing them as "Americans who have preserved and protected our nation's past so that we may better protect our future." It is thanks to the dedication and service of men and women such as Colonel Morgan that we have such a bright future to protect.

I am honored to have gotten to spend time with Colonel Morgan and thank him again for his service, dedication and patriotism to the nation. Mr. Speaker, I ask that his remarks at the July 3, 2003 ceremony be inserted into the RECORD at this point.

Congressman Steve Israel, Mr. Hugh Jones, Mr. Edward Blumenfeld, Supervisor Bellone—distinguished guests and fellow veterans—it is a tremendous honor to be here this morning at the American Airpower Museum at Republic Airport.

I have not been in New York since September 11th, 2001. But truth be told, I don't find its spirit to be much different than when I was here back in the late 1990's. You still have the guts, the grit and the determination of what I remember. You continue to be that tough competitor on the outside with the heart of gold on the inside.

That character was on display that morning of September 11th as men and women made life and death decisions with courage and bravery that will be recorded in the annals of American history for all time.

Some 22 months ago many in this audience found themselves on the front line of this nation's fight against tyranny and terrorism. Civilians and uniformed services found themselves together—under fire and confronting an enemy we had never known before. And yet because we were attacked as Americans we responded the same way—as Americans.

I am proud that you think me worthy of being called an honorary New Yorker. Congressman Israel, I will wear that label proudly as it shows solidarity with each and every one of you. It reminds all of us that the fight to preserve and protect our country is never without sacrifice.

Some sixty years ago I served with men who understood that stark reality. To protect our freedom we need to put ourselves in harms way. In a plane much like the B-17 Flying Fortress sitting beside the museum, we set out 25 times to defy the Nazi Luftwaffe. We knew that if we didn't put bombs on target the people of Europe would remain slaves forever and the people of

America would always live in fear. We never wanted to be heroes but we understood the stakes.

Today is no different. The stakes are high. The risks are great. But we are a nation that will do what it takes to defend itself and preserve liberty. These aircraft at the American Airpower Museum are part of that legacy. The outstanding work that Congressman Israel does in Washington is part of that legacy. And the support we get from people like Hugh Jones of Republic Airport, Ed Blumenfeld of BDG, Faith Weiner of Stop & Shop and Bill Mullaney of Hampton Inn keep that heritage alive and well.

Accordingly, I would like to make those individuals honorary members of the Memphis Belle—Americans who have preserved and protected our nation's past so that we may better protect our future. Wear your new membership proudly—you are now part of our American heritage.

Thank you all and God Bless America.

HONORING KEN BROWN, "MR. VETERAN"

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the patriotism and dedication of Ken Brown, or as he is known in Southern Nevada, "Mr. Veteran."

Mr. Brown honorably served in the United States Navy during World War II. After receiving his honorable discharge from the Armed Services, Mr. Brown dedicated himself to improving the quality of life for the military veterans of Nevada and our great nation.

Mr. Brown was the driving force behind the creation of the Veteran's Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada. Using his own personal savings, Mr. Brown purchased 83.5 acres of land in Boulder City to be used as a veterans' cemetery site. On Friday, April 6, 1990 Mr. Brown's dream was realized and the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery was officially dedicated. In honor of his contributions, Friday, April 6, 1990 was proclaimed "Ken Brown Day" by the Governor of Nevada.

Mr. Brown has received numerous honors paying tribute to his fifty years of service to veterans and their families including the God & Country Award from the United States Navy Armed Guard and the key to the City of Las Vegas for heroism and vision in supporting veterans in Nevada.

I am honored to join with all Nevadans in honoring Ken Brown on his many accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICK J. MELLODY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, this country has lost a great citizen. I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional constituent of mine and the life he led by example. Nearly a year ago my very good friend, Attorney Patrick J. Melody, passed away on August 29, 2002. He is deeply missed by his family and the entire community of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

A native of Scranton, he served his nation in the U.S. Army as a 1st Lieutenant. He married the former Patricia Lynch and raised five children: Patrick, Kathleen, Mara, Stephen, and Meredith.

An outstanding attorney, Pat often represented injured workers before me when I was an Administrative Law Judge for the state's worker's compensation fund. I quickly came to appreciate not only his excellent legal skills, but also his compassion. It was this natural empathy and desire to help others that drove Pat. He served as a trusted advisor and counselor to each of his clients.

The son of a Lackawanna county commissioner, Pat learned the importance of public service at an early age. He served as a hearing examiner for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board for over sixteen years. He was also active in numerous community organizations, from the Boy Scouts of America to the American Heart Association, but it was his dedicated service to the Democratic Party for which he will be best remembered.

Never a candidate himself, Pat tirelessly supported Democratic candidates and developed the Lackawanna County Democratic Party into a source of strength and significance in local, state, and national elections.

Pat served as chairman of the Lackawanna County Democratic Committee from 1984 to 2002, the longest any individual has held the position. In 1989, a local political columnist wrote about Pat's great character, which showed through when he appeared on a local radio station's political show with his Republican counterpart. "The listeners were struck by the civility and friendliness that dominated the program. Hey, the listeners reasoned, Democrats and Republicans can get along together, particularly if they're high-class gents. Listeners got a lesson in modern day political science—it is not necessary to downgrade the opponent. You can be nice to him, and vice versa."

An article in the Scranton Times on September 7, 2002 Melody was the glue keeping party together, Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Leader Robert T. Mellow, a great friend of Pat's for forty years was quoted as saying, "He brought to the party very great leadership, absolutely no selfishness, no agenda." "He was a very open individual with no personal agenda except to make sure the Democratic Party . . . would be successful."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

At the Lackawanna Bar Association's memorial, Attorney Sal Cagnetti described, "Pat as a cheerful, helpful, generous man who everyday aided and touched other human beings by and through his counsel and knowledge. His compassion made him care about the less fortunate. The strength of his personality and his unyielding dedication to good and equal government for all kept a diverse group of individuals united under the umbrella of the Democratic Party."

Mr. Speaker, I insert in my remarks at this point the complete text of Pat's obituary.

[From the Scranton Times Tribune, August 31, 2002]

ATTORNEY PATRICK J. MELLODY

Attorney Patrick J. Melody, 59, of the Green Ridge section of Scranton, died Thursday evening at home. His wife is the former Patricia Lynch.

Born in Scranton, son of Rita Lestrangle Melody, Scranton, and the late Lackawanna County Commissioner Patrick J. Melody, he was a 1962 graduate of St. Paul's High School. He earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Scranton in 1966 and his juris doctor from Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in 1974. He received American Jurisprudence Awards for academic excellence.

Attorney Melody maintained a practice in Scranton since 1974. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Attorney Melody had served as chairman of the Lackawanna County Democratic Committee since 1984. He was also a member of the executive committee of the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee and was elected delegate to the 1984, 1996 and 2000 Democratic National Conventions. A graduate of Officer Candidate School, he served as a 1st lieutenant in the Army from 1966 to 1969.

He was a member of numerous civic, educational, professional and business associations, including serving as chairman of the Keystone Chapter of the American Heart Association and on the board of directors of the Pennsylvania State Affiliate of the American Heart Association. He served on the executive committee of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and as vice president and a member of the executive board of the Forest Lakes Council, Boy Scouts of America. An Eagle Scout, he was a member of the Eagle Scout Association of the Boy Scouts of America.

He was a member of St. Clare's Church, Scranton; the advisory board of directors of the Green Ridge branch of Penn Security Bank and Trust Co., Scranton; the Irish-American Men's Association, the Sierra Club, the Knights of Columbus Council 280, Scranton; the Green Ridge Business Association, St. Paul's Booster Club and the executive board of the Italian-American Democratic League.

Surviving in addition to his widow and mother are three daughters, Kathleen, Arlington, Va., and Mara and Meredith; both of Scranton; two sons, Patrick, Scranton, and Stephen, Arlington, Va.; a sister, Mary Horan, Pleasant Valley, N.Y.; two brothers, Charles Melody, Bethesda, Md., and Jerome Melody, Rockville, Md.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, James Francis Melody, who died in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, Pat Melody's integrity, industriousness, and devotion to his family and

community mark him as an extraordinary man. May his life be an inspiration to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF DC NATIONAL GUARD HOMELAND SECURITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to give the mayor of the District of Columbia the same authority over the National Guard as the governors of all 50 States. My work as a Member of the new Select Committee on Homeland Security has convinced me that this bill is necessary now more than at anytime in the District's history. In some circumstances where a suspected terrorist incident occurs and in all circumstances constituting local emergencies, the mayor of the District of Columbia should have the same authority as governors. The National Guards in the 50 States operate under dual jurisdictions, Federal and local, but the D.C. National Guard (DCNG) has no local jurisdiction, no matter the local emergency. The President of the United States as the Commander in Chief alone has the authority to call up the National Guard for any purpose, local or national here. Each Governor, however, as the head of state, has the authority to mobilize the National Guard to protect the local jurisdiction, just as local militia have always done historically. Most often this has meant calling upon the National Guard to restore order in the wake of civil disturbances and natural disasters. Today it could mean acting quickly to respond to an incident that may be local or terrorist-related because it may be impossible to tell which. The mayor, who knows the city better than any Federal official, certainly should be able to call on the DCNG to cover local natural disasters or civil disturbances without relying on the President, who may be preoccupied with national matters, including perhaps war or security matters. It does no harm to give the mayor the authority. Today it may do great harm to leave him powerless to act quickly. If it makes sense that a Governor would have control over the mobilization and deployment of the State National Guard, at the very least it makes the same sense for the mayor of the District of Columbia, with a population the size of that of small States, should have the same authority.

The mayor of the District of Columbia, acting as head of state, should have the authority to call upon the DCNG in instances that do not rise to the level of Federal importance to implicate the powers of the President. Today requiring action by the President of the United States could endanger the life and health of D.C. residents and visitors and those who work here in the event of an emergency. Procedures now in use require the mayor to request the needed assistance from the Commander in Chief for a local National Guard. My bill does not cause the President to lose his power over the D.C. National Guard. The President could still nationalize the Guard at will, as he can with the Guards of the 50 States.

Following the September 11 terrorist attacks, I succeeded in including a provision in the Homeland Security Act recognizing that

the District of Columbia must be an integral part of the planning, implementation, and execution of national plans to protect city residents, Federal employees, and visitors by including the District of Columbia, as part of the region, as a separate and full partner and first responder in federal domestic preparedness legislation. Allowing the mayor control over the DCNG helps recognize the new responsibility he now has in protecting the entire Federal establishment—the Congress, the White House, the Supreme Court, and the Federal agencies—from terrorist attacks. At a minimum, such recognition also demonstrates the respect for local governance and home rule that every jurisdiction that recruits members of the military to its National Guard deserves, especially today when the Guards are no longer weekend warriors, as the Iraq war demonstrates. If the mayor has local control over his own Guard, the Executive would give up nothing of his necessary control because the President would retain his right to nationalize the DCNG at will, as he can for the states. The confusion that accompanied the September 11 attack plainly showed the danger inherent in allowing bureaucratic steps to stand in the way of responding to emergencies in the Nation's Capital. September 11 has made local control of the DCNG an imperative.

This bill is another important step necessary to complete the transfer of full self-government powers to the District of Columbia that Congress itself began with the passage of the Home Rule Act of 1973. District authority over its own National Guard apparently was not raised during the Home Rule Act process. However, then it was unthinkable that there would be war in the homeland, much less terrorist threats to the nation's capital. What should be unthinkable after 9-11 in an era of global terrorism is allowing to stand old and antiquated layers rather than stripping them away. Giving the mayor of the District of Columbia authority to call up the National Guard could make the difference in protecting the safety of the residents, Federal employees, and visitors alike. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the 50th anniversary of the American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellowship Program. Founded in 1953, the highly selective, nonpartisan Congressional Fellowship Program has ushered more than 1700 foreign and domestic scholars, journalists and Federal employees through legislative assignments on Capitol Hill. The APSA Congressional Fellowship Program, which is currently run by Dr. Jeffrey Biggs, provides fellows with a hands-on experience in Congress as they handle legislative responsibilities both on personal or committee staffs.